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Early Stories of Warming Methods

On the plains, the pioneers, treking west, had no fuel for fires. So men and children would gather dry ^{buffalo} cow (puckies) dung to burn. Sage brush which burned as a very hot fire was also used when available. There was very sparse timber.

This method of keeping warm has not been forgotten, as grand fathers, and grand mothers tell their children and grand children the stories of the pioneers.

Since there were no matches to start fires in those days, it was common to get a start of a fire, by going to the neighbors with a coal shovel and "borrow" some embers of wood or later, coal to start their own fires.

It was, also, good sense to stoke the fireplace or later, the stove so that there were enough embers remaining in the morning, on a wintery nite, to restart the family fire.

The scouts of today, can show you how fires were started with tinder and dowl, bow and thong of leather.

They can also show you the method of sparking fine tinder with sparks from flint and steel.